

ORIGINAL

W. Scott Randolph
Director - Regulatory Matters



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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

October 26, 1999

Ms. Magalie R. Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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OCT 26 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**Ex Parte: Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the
Telecommunications Act of 1996 – CC Docket No. 96-98**

Dear Ms. Salas,

On Tuesday, October 26, 1999, I provided the attached material to Mr. Lawrence Strickling, Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau, regarding GTE's compliance with the Commission's rules related to the provision of non-published number information to directory assistance providers.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(a)(1) of the Commission's rules, and original and one copy of this letter are being submitted to the Office of the Secretary. Please associate this notification with the record in the proceeding indicated above.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (202) 463-5293.

Sincerely,

W. Scott Randolph
Director - Regulatory Matters

cc: Greg Cooke

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Director - Regulatory Matters



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Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling
Chief, Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Room 5-C450
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 - CC Docket No. 96-98

Dear Mr. Strickling:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the manner in which GTE plans to comply with portions of the Commission's Second Report and Order in CC Docket No. 96-98 (FCC 99-227), *Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*, released September 9, 1999 ("Second R&O"). The Second R&O (at ¶167) clarified that the FCC "rules require that a LEC share the names and addresses of subscribers with unpublished numbers if the LEC provides those names to its own directory assistance operators" and declined to "require the sharing of non-published numbers" (at ¶168).

In the past, GTE furnished non-published ("NP") customer information both to its own and to non-affiliated directory assistance ("DA") providers. Upon seeing the customer's name and the non-published status indicator, GTE's operators would tell callers that a person's number could not be divulged because that person has a non-published telephone number. Callers would know that a person has telephone service and the approximate geographic location or city.

In the spring of 1999, GTE began the process to cease providing NP customer information in order to provide maximum protection for the privacy of our customers. In order to comply with the rules established by the Second R&O, GTE plans to continue the process of removing NP customer information from both GTE's and non-affiliated DA providers in the following manner:

By November 12, 1999, GTE's DA operators will not provide any NP customer information, even if the information was obtained from another LEC that has chosen to give it out to everyone. This will be accomplished via training and scripting. That is, by November 12, although GTE's operators will see a customer's name, address and the NP status indicator, all of GTE's approximately 3000 DA operators will have been trained to tell callers that there is no listing found for the customer. This approach ensures that callers to GTE's DA service will not get more information (the existence of a NP number) than the caller would get from a competing DA provider who does not have any information to view. By December 31, 1999, there will be no GTE NP information available to GTE's operators.

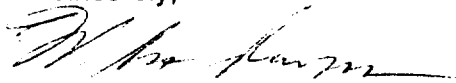
Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling
October 26, 1999
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With respect to non-affiliated DA operators, by December 31, 1999, GTE will have completed the process of removing non-published customer information from all other DA providers to whom GTE gives data. The process includes pulling a new database load for each NPA, with NP customer information deleted, and then overlaying the new database load in the non-affiliated companies' systems. The process of removing NP customer information is well along, as the re-load process has been completed for all except four non-affiliated companies.

By taking these actions, GTE will be in full compliance with the Commission's rules related to the provision of NP information to both GTE and non-affiliated directory assistance providers.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at (202) 463-5293.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. Scott Randolph", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

W. Scott Randolph
Director – Regulatory Affairs

c: Yog Varma, 5-C352
Greg Cooke, 6-A432
Bill Kehoe, 5-C312